

# Devon County Geological Sites

or

Regionally Important Geological / Geomorphological Sites - RIGS

**Site reference no.** SX98NW2      **Name:** Exminster Quarry

**District:** Teignbridge      **Parish:** Exminster

**National grid ref:** 9455 8830      **OS sheets:** 1:50k 192    1:25k 1329    1:10k SX98 NW    **GS 1:50k** 325

<b>GridRef</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>y</b>	<b>Lat</b>	<b>Long</b>
SX945883	294500	88300	50.684759	-3.4947561

**Locality description(address):** Beside A379 Exminster bypass, immediately west of the M5 Motorway Bridge.

**Nature of site :** Quarry (D) , Large, with single face 30-35m high.

**Geological / geomorphological features:**

Lower Permian, Heavitree Breccia, passing up into Dawlish Sandstone. Massive Breccia with igneous and sedimentary clasts in a fairly well cemented sandy gravel matrix. Bedding traces dip at about 6° SSE. The breccia becomes more sandy and the clasts smaller upwards and to the south-east.

**Reasons for registration as a Regionally Important Geological / Geomorphological Site :**

A large and accessible quarried exposure of massive Heavitree Breccia, the Heavitree Stone typical of , and widely used in, the older buildings and walls of Exeter and the surrounding area.

**Site sensitivity:** None

**Safety:** The quarry has a very high and steep face and hard hats are necessary.

**Interest groups:** Schools. **Primary - Secondary - 6th Form . University. Undergraduate - Research Professional geologists - Amateur geologists - General public.**

**Access and Parking:** From roadside gateway beneath motorway bridge across rough but reasonably level ground to the quarry face. The foot of the face is likely to be rather overgrown in Summer. Parking for cars and minibuses and possibly a coach on the verge below motorway bridge.

**Date of assessment (V = visited) :** V 8th July 1994.      R T Taylor

**Site owner :** Devon County Council, Teignbridge District Council? **Tel.**

**Other comments:** Clearance of a path to and along the foot of the quarry face would greatly improve accessibility.

**References:**

Bristow, C R., Morton, A C. and Dangerfield, J. 1984. Geological notes and local details for 1: 10,000 Sheet SX 98 NW (Exminster). British Geological Survey Technical Report WA/84/43. Exeter: British Geological Survey.  
Edwards, R A. and Scrivener R C., Geology of the Country around Exeter. Memoir of the British Geological Survey. *In press.*

